COUNTERVAILING / INITIATION

DGTR starts anti-subsidy probe on grooved copper tubes from China, Thailand, Vietnam

DGTR initiated a countervailing duty investigation into internally grooved copper tubes and pipes from China, Thailand and Vietnam (CVD/OI/009/2026).

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of Trade Remedies has initiated an anti-subsidy (countervailing duty) investigation concerning imports of Internally Grooved Copper Tubes and Pipes originating in or exported from China, Thailand and Vietnam (SETU Case ID CVD/OI/009/2026). The application was filed by MetTube Copper India Private Limited. The date line of the notification gives the month as September but no day or year.

KEY FACTS

MEASURE
Countervailing

STAGE
Initiation

COUNTRIES
China, Thailand, Vietnam

REFERENCES

SETU CASE ID - CVD/OI/009/2026

F. No. 6/54/2026-DGTR

CG-DL-E-06102026-276856

HS CODES 4

7411 10 00
7411 21 00
7411 22 00
7411 29 00

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SETU CASE ID - CVD/OI/009/2026 · Initiation

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The product consists of copper tubes and pipes with internal grooves, also called microfin tubes, used mainly in air-conditioner condensers. Plain or smooth copper tubes are not covered for the purpose of initiation. The goods are classifiable under tariff items 7411 10 00, 7411 21 00, 7411 22 00 and 7411 29 00, which are indicative only.

The applicant alleges that producers and exporters benefit from a number of subsidy schemes and programs granted by the governments of the subject countries, including tax incentives, preferential lending, grants, export financing and goods and services supplied at less than adequate remuneration. Pre-initiation consultations were held with the governments of Vietnam and Thailand; China did not take up the opportunity.

The applicant alleges that subsidized imports are materially retarding the establishment of the domestic industry, and states it was the only Indian producer during the period of investigation, April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. The Authority found, prima facie, imports holding the predominant share of Indian demand at prices below the domestic industry's costs, and negative profits for the domestic industry in both years of its operation.

The Authority will determine the existence, degree and effect of the alleged subsidization and recommend a duty adequate to remove injury, if warranted. Interested parties are to file submissions on the SETU portal within 37 days of transmission of the intimation letters.

Measure	Countervailing
Stage	Initiation
Case number	SETU CASE ID - CVD/OI/009/2026
File number	F. No. 6/54/2026-DGTR
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Product	Internally Grooved Copper Tubes and Pipes (IGT)
What it covers	Tubes and pipes of refined copper or copper alloys, known as microfin tubes, with a series of grooves or ridges on the inner surface that increase heat transfer efficiency; hollow products, coiled or not, of uniform cross-section and wall thickness, supplied in any coiled form including level wound coil (ETS or ETW packaging) and jumbo coil. They are used principally in air-conditioner condensers and also in evaporators, water heaters, automotive air-conditioners, heat pipe radiators of electronic products, solar equipment and water-cooled screw chilled water units. For initiation, plain or smooth copper tubes and pipes do not form part of the product under consideration.
Customs codes	7411 10 00, 7411 21 00, 7411 22 00, 7411 29 00
Countries	China, Thailand, Vietnam
Applicant	MetTube Copper India Private Limited
Period of investigation	1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 (12 months)
Injury period	Financial years 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25 and the period of investigation
Findings	• The applicant alleges that subsidized imports are materially retarding the establishment of the domestic industry; no anti-dumping or countervailing duty is in force on the subject goods, which were excluded from the countervailing duty investigation on copper pipes and tubes concluded by final finding 04/10/2020-DGTR dated January 31, 2022. • Pre-initiation consultations under Article 13 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures were held with the Governments of Vietnam and Thailand; the Government of China did not avail the opportunity. • The applicant states it was the only producer of the subject goods in India during the period of investigation; the Authority notes its output is the whole of Indian production and that its limited imports from Malaysia and its relationship with a Malaysian producer do not attract the Rule 2(b) exception. • The applicant lists programs numbered 1 to 117 for China (including 7a and 7b), 1 to 19 for Thailand and 1 to 24 for Vietnam, covering provision of goods and services at less than adequate remuneration, revenue foregone and tax incentives, preferential loans and financing, grants, equity infusion, export financing and free trade zone schemes, and alleges that they are specific and countervailable.

- The data prima facie show that demand in India was met almost entirely by imports until the applicant began production, that subject imports increased and kept the predominant share of demand, that their landed price was below the domestic industry's cost of sales and net sales realization and undercut its prices, and that the domestic industry's profits, cash profits and return on capital employed were negative in both years of its operation.
- The Authority notes that the import volume from each subject country is not prima facie negligible and finds, for initiation, sufficient evidence of material retardation and of a causal link with the alleged subsidized imports.

Recommendation

The Authority initiates an anti-subsidy investigation under Section 9 of the Act read with Rule 6 of the Rules to determine the existence, degree and effect of the alleged subsidization and to recommend the anti-subsidy duty that, if levied, would be adequate to remove the injury. The applicant's requests for provisional duty under Rule 14 and for duty for five years will be considered, if and to the extent warranted, at the appropriate stage.

Time limits

- Interested parties to upload submissions, in confidential and non-confidential versions, on the SETU portal under case ID CVD/OI/009/2026: within 37 days from the date of transmission of the intimation letters, containing the non-confidential version of the application and the questionnaire(s), to the known interested parties and the diplomatic representative(s) of the subject countries
- Comments on the scope of the PUC and PCN methodology: within 15 days from the date of transmission of the intimation letters, running concurrently with the 37-day time limit
- Requests for extension of time: at least one day before the original deadline
- Comments on issues of confidentiality: within 7 days from the date of circulation of the non-confidential version of the documents

The notification (PDF, 1.6 MB)

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